Special Studies in Evangelism: Apologetics
EV521
Summer 2011: July 25-29
Professor: David Erickson
derickson@bmats.edu (903) 795-3677

Course Description

This course allows a student to explore different emphases in evangelism as applied to different age groups, cults, world religions, or as applied in specialized geographical settings. Particular goals, skills, and requirements may be selected according to the individual needs of the student. This particular session will focus on developing a Biblical philosophy of, and skills in, basic apologetics. Evangelism 311 is a prerequisite. Students will serve as trainers during all OJT sessions.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

1) Objective: Answer common objections to the Gospel by formulating responses that will either redirect the objector to the Gospel or ascertain if the objector has a more sophisticated objection to the Gospel.
   Acquisition: The student will complete readings in *Evangelism Explosion*, participate in class discussions, and lead witnessing teams during on-the-job-training.
   Assessment: Success will be measured by class participation, the completion of the *Level III Notebook*, and passing the final exam.

2) Objective: Design a process to train others to respond to common objections to a Gospel presentation.
   Acquisition: The student will participate in class discussions, lead witnessing teams during on-the-job-training, and read *Every Thought Captive*.
   Assessment: Success will be measured by class participation, and answering the review questions in *Every Thought Captive*.

3) Objective: Evaluate sophisticated or rarer objections and appropriately defend the Gospel or Christianity in response to them.
   Acquisition: The student will complete readings in the *Baker Encyclopedia of Apologetics*, participate in class discussions, read *Apologetics to the Glory of God*, and engage in additional self-directed reading in the field of apologetics.
   Assessment: Success will be measured by class participation, the completion of a critical book review of *Apologetics to the Glory of God* that successfully meets the criteria in the grading rubric, and the completion of summaries of the self-directed reading.

Course Texts


Course Requirements

1. **Exam**
   
   There is one (1) exam on July 29. The exam may be written, oral, or both.

2. **Notebook**
   
   Your _Evangelism Explosion Level III Notebook_ will be used throughout the lecture portion of the course. A completed notebook with all questions answered must be submitted on July 29.

3. **Reading**
   
   After reading _Every Thought Captive_, answer the review questions at the end of chapters 1-13. Answers must be submitted on July 25 typewritten and double-spaced.

   There are two major reading assignments due August 26:

   After reading _Apologetics to the Glory of God_, write a six (6) page double-spaced book review. A book review should include: a brief introduction, possibly with biographical information on the author (1 page or less), a summary of the book's contents (3 pages), critical reflection on the book (2 pages), and a brief conclusion (1 paragraph). A book review should include full bibliographic information for the book reviewed at the top of the first page. Quotations or references to the book should be made with parenthetical page citations. Refer to the rubric for more information.

   Students must read an additional 500 pages of apologetics related material of their choice. Journal articles count as 2 pages for each page read, as do double-columned books (such as _Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics_). Students must submit a ten (10) page double-spaced summary and review of the material read. Include full bibliographic information and pages read for each source used.
Course Grades

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Notebook</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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The seminary's standardized grading scale will be followed in assigning final grades.

Course Policies

1. **Attendance**
   Students are expected to attend every class session. Given the highly compressed nature of Motion courses, students must participate in every class session.

2. **Deadlines**
   You are expected to adhere to all deadlines without fail. Late work is automatically worth zero points. You have been informed of the various due dates well in advance and are expected to meet them regardless of any personal impediments. Deadlines are a fact of life. You can choose to plan ahead so that you meet them, or you can be content with the mediocrity of last-minute work. Either way, you still have to be on time.

3. **Academic Integrity**
   The sanctity of truth is central to those who believe in a God who cannot lie and who forbids false witness. Academic honesty is the application in the academic world of the sanctity of truth. A student who submits work as part of the requirements for a course thereby asserts that the student personally has done that work and that it has not been submitted for credit in any other course without permission. Unless credit is explicitly given to sources, the student is assenting that the words and/or the thoughts are the student's own original work. Academic dishonesty is falling short of these standards. It includes, but is not limited to: cheating, submitting work which was prepared by another person, not giving credit on papers to sources, and submitting without approval work originally prepared by the student for another course.

4. **Special Needs**
   Individuals with documented impairments who may need special circumstances for exams, classroom participation, or assignments should contact the professor before the course begins in order for special arrangements to be considered.

5. **Syllabus Disclaimer**
   This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the course description, content outline, objectives, grading scale, attendance requirements, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, the professor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that change. You will be notified of all such modifications by email or by verbal instruction during a class meeting.
EV 521 Schedule
Summer 2011

Before arriving for class:
Read *Evangelism Explosion*, 145-176.
Begin memorizing how to respond to common objections, you must have this information memorized by Friday, July 29.
Read from *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics* the following articles:
- Bible, Alleged Errors in (74-80)
- Bible, Evidence for (91-96)
- Christ, Deity of (129-135)
- Christ of Faith vs. Jesus of History (141-142)
- Evil, Problem of (219-224)
- God, Evidence for (276-283)
- God, Objections to Proofs for (289-296)
- "Heathen," Salvation of (303-307)
- Holy Spirit, Role in Apologetics (330-337)
- Immortality (350-355)
- Infants, Salvation of (360-366)
- Jesus, Non-Christian Sources (381-385)
- Morality, Absolute Nature of (501-502)
- Universalism (746-750)
Read *Every Thought Captive* and answer review questions at the end of each chapter.
Review the EV2 presentation and be prepared to give the presentation and lead teams on OJT on Monday!

Monday, July 25
- **Morning**
  - Introduction to course
  - Review of EV2 presentation
- **Afternoon**
  - Unit 1: I don't believe the Bible
  - Unit 2: I don't believe in the existence of God
    - OJT
- **Evening**
  - OJT

Tuesday, July 26
- **Morning**
  - Unit 3: My God isn't like that
  - Unit 4: I don't believe in life after death
    - OJT
- **Afternoon**
  - Unit 5: Are the heathen lost?
  - Unit 6: What about all the hypocrites in churches?
    - OJT
- **Evening**
  - OJT
Wednesday, July 27
Morning  Unit 7: Why does God allow suffering?
          Unit 8: Was Jesus an actual historical person?
              OJT
Afternoon Unit 9: I don't believe in the resurrection of Christ
          Unit 10: Hell isn't real
              OJT

Thursday, July 28
Morning  Unit 11: Religion is a crutch
          Unit 12: I've always believed that
              OJT
Afternoon Leading EE
          OJT
Evening  OJT?

Friday, July 29
Morning  Final Exam
          Completed EE Level III Notebook due

August 26 (emailed to professor by midnight)
          Review of *Apologetics to the Glory of God*
          Review of 500 additional pages of reading